

Cambridgeshire Matters

News from **Paul Bristow** and
your **local Conservative Team**

PAUL BRISTOW

**GET CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND
PETERBOROUGH MOVING**



IT'S OFFICIAL:

NO ROAD CHARGING WITH PAUL BRISTOW

A Conservative Mayor will end the pointless war on motorists

Labour and the Lib Dems want to force 15% of cars off your road by 2030 — and not just your road, but every road in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Both parties backed the Mayor's transport plan, which made this official policy.

Achieving this target in five years is impossible without road closures, access restrictions and charging. That's why the Mayor's plan explicitly included "road user or congestion charging".

Paul Bristow says the 15% target is ludicrous: "Many people have no alternative to using a car. I want more alternatives, like light rail, but I will never punish drivers."

When Labour and the Lib Dems tried to introduce congestion charging in Cambridge, local people resisted. Although they failed then, neither party has given up on the idea and new powers for mayors will make it easier to get schemes through.

"This has to be stopped," says Paul. "As Mayor, I will scrap this absurd target on day one and rule out charging or closures. It's time to end the war on motorists."



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Conservatives

PAUL BRISTOW'S plan for...

BETTER ROADS

FASTER TRAINS

LOWER TAX



Our major roads, like the A47 and A10, need to be dual carriageways. Local roads haven't kept pace with our growing population and schemes like that for the A141 and St Ives are essential.

As Mayor, Paul will designate a key route network, get the plans in place and ensure that

funding is prioritised.

He will use the new rail powers for mayors to get a much faster train service between Peterborough-Ely-Cambridge. The Ely Area Capacity Enhancement removes the existing bottleneck on local lines. Much faster, later-running trains are possible.

With Cambridge expanding, it's also time to connect it with light rail. Paul will ensure

the feasibility work is done and make light rail a precondition for the Cambridge Growth Company's plans.

Above all, Paul won't make you pay for any of this through your council tax. Most mayors haven't introduced a precept and Paul will never increase it. The means already exist to get Cambridgeshire and Peterborough moving.



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OUT MORE
ABOUT PAUL

Follow Paul on Facebook at [proudpeterboroughandcambs](https://www.facebook.com/proudpeterboroughandcambs) to ask him a question or send a comment. And visit paulbristow.org.uk for more on Paul's plan to make Cambridgeshire and Peterborough an even better place to live, work and raise a family.



The Labour Mayor's tenure has been marked by scandal and unresolved questions. A whistleblowing investigation was followed by two further complaints about "bullying behaviour and toxic culture".

Every senior member of staff left after the Mayor was elected, including six chief executives in just two years. BBC News reported the cost to local taxpayers as running over £1 million, including:

- £320,005 in payouts to four staff "to avoid employment claims"
- £43,092 in legal costs linked to these four staff
- £651,733 to pay interim senior staff "over and above" the normal salaries for those roles
- £34,080 auditing spending in the Mayor's office
- £31,112 investigating the code of conduct complaints about the Mayor

- £13,180 for mediation involving the Mayor and staff
- £461 on personal protection alarms for staff

This does not include the money that the Mayor repaid for inappropriate use of a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority credit card.

In July 2024, Labour's Deputy Mayor, Anna Smith, had to correct an official answer, admitting that the personal protection alarms for staff in the Mayor's office were connected to the allegations. The independent investigator's report on the Mayor remains secret.

Paul Bristow concludes that, "While some members of the board fought for the truth, others helped bury it. I will bring transparency and action on standards."

LOCAL BUSINESSES BACK PLAN FOR FREE PARKING

Our city centres and towns need footfall to stay alive. Some have free parking, like Ely, where the market is thriving thanks to Conservative-run East Cambs District Council. However, most towns have expensive charges.

Paul Bristow says that businesses are always telling him a plan is needed to help them compete, particularly with the rise of retail parks. He wants to widen free parking using funding for economic growth.

"A good Mayor should take a lead and get things moving. If I'm elected, I'm going to do something about it. Free parking is a boost we need to get people back into the centre of Peterborough and our market



towns, like Huntingdon. And in Cambridge, we need light rail."

Shops, restaurants and other businesses all depend on visitors to survive. "I understand that money is tight at our local councils," Paul says. "That's why I want to work with them, so Mayoral funding and projects can deliver free parking — whether that's for particular sites, particular days or across the board."

JUST FIX OUR ROADS!



We need better roads for everyone

Cambridgeshire just got another £8.1 million to spend on fixing our roads. But instead, the Lib Dems and Labour have consistently prioritised making it harder to drive in Cambridge.

Compared to other areas, they spent more than double per mile on roads in Cambridge over the last four years, while diverting money to other uses. So instead of better roads for everyone, the result is more congestion — and unfixed potholes.

Paul Bristow says, "The Mayor has a strong say over the allocation of transport funding. I won't allow fixing our region's roads to be left off the list."

LABOUR'S MUDDLE ON BUSES

When the Labour government increased the cap on bus fares to £3, the Mayor diverted bus improvement money to keeping a £2 cap. However, this money is set to run out.

The local cap will rise to £2.50 just weeks after the election in May, then disappear in December. Likewise, the much-publicised Tiger Pass will only survive until funding is exhausted later in the year.

"Labour's bus schemes literally don't add up," says Paul Bristow. "We can't afford to let them run every route in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough."

YOUR CHOICE AT THE ELECTIONS IN MAY

Labour's Mayor with Lib-Dem and Labour Cambridgeshire Councillors

We have a new Labour government with a huge majority in Westminster. A Labour Mayor and a Lib Dem / Labour County Council. And with Lib Dems siding with Labour over tax rises, plans to develop on green spaces, and on clean air zones and road charging — places like Cambridgeshire and Peterborough risk losing their voice.

Despite huge opportunities locally, nothing seems to happen.



Paul Bristow as Mayor and Cambridgeshire Conservative Councillors

Paul will be a Mayor who matters — for you. He'll improve our road network by dualling our major roads and make it easier to travel by train between our towns and cities. No council tax rises. And he'll never allow road or congestion charging. That's why more and more people are **BACKING BRISTOW**.

Paul will be a voice for local communities, delivering what matters to them. Let's get Cambridgeshire and Peterborough moving.



PAUL BRISTOW

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**SCAN
ME**

